

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 193719 TOSEC 200034

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ORIGIN SS-15

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S/S-O:LRMACFARLANE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 193719 TOSEC 200034

EXDIS-FOR ATHERTON

FOLLOWING REPEAT DAMASCUS 5141 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT
DTD 04 AUG

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5141

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, US, LE
SUBJECT: CONTACTS WITH LEBANESE POLITICIANS IN DAMASCUS

1. HARES CHEHAB, WHO CURRENTLY VISITING DAMASCUS, IS
EDITOR OF ARAB NEWS AGENCY PUBLISHED IN BEIRUT, RELATIVE
OF FORMER PRESIDENT FAUD CHEHAB AND FRIEND OF PRESIDENT-
ELECT SARKIS. HE TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST 4 THAT LEBANESE CHRISTIAN
DELEGATION HAS BEEN IN TOWN PAST THREE DAYS AND IS STAYING
AT DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL HOTEL. SAID DELEGATION INCLUDES
DANNY CHAMOUN, KARIM PAKRADOUNI AND EDMOND RIZQ (LATTER
IS CHRISTIAN DEPUTY FROM JEZZIN). CHEHAB SUGGESTED EMBOFF
WOULD BENEFIT FROM CONTACT WITH RIZQ OR PAKRADOUNI. CHEHAB
ACCOMPANIED ON THIS TRIP TO DAMASCUS BY INDIVIDUAL WHOM
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PAGE 02 STATE 193719 TOSEC 200034

HE INTRODUCED TO EMBOFF AS COLONEL JEAN NASSIF, WHOSE

BROTHER ALLEGEDLY HEADS SARKIS' MILITARY BUREAU.

2. ACTION REQUESTED:

ADVISE IF DEPARTMENT WISHES US MAKE ANY CONTACT WITH
DELEGATION. (THEY HAVE MADE NO ATTEMPT TO REACH US.)
WE HAVE NO INFORMATION HOW LONG DELEGATION WILL REMAIN
DAMASCUS.
MURPHY UNQTE HABIB

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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